

CLAIMS

1. A printer, which comprises:

a platen roller, for conveying a recording sheet,

a print head, arranged opposite the platen roller,

5 a drive unit, for rotating the platen roller, and

a main frame, including a pair of side walls that
can rotatably support the platen roller, characterized in
that:

the drive unit includes

10 a motor,

idler gears, for transmitting a rotational force
provided by the motor to the platen roller, and

a gear fitting member, integrally formed with
gear support shafts that support the idler gears;

15 the motor and idler gears are capable of being
mounted in the main frame while attached to the gear
fitting member; and

a drive gear of the motor and the idler gears are
stored in a space defined by the gear fitting member and
20 one of the side walls of the main frame.

2. A printer according to claim 1, characterized in
that the gear fitting member is formed of an alloy material
by die casting.

3. A printer according to claim 2, characterized in
25 that the alloy material is a zinc alloy, a magnesium alloy
or a titanium alloy.

4. A printer according to one of claims 1 to 3,

characterized in that the motor is attached through a flange member to the gear fitting member, and an engagement groove that is to be fitted in the distal end of the gear shaft is formed in the flange member.

- 5 5. A printer according to one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the print head is a thermal head in which a plurality of heat generating members are arranged in one direction.